

## Message Text

SECRET

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62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 181739Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9524

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

S E C R E T BONN 06363

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: EC MEETING APRIL 22

REF: USNATO 2090

1. IN MEETING WITH FONOFF MBFR DEPARTMENT HEAD RUTH ON APRIL 18, EMBOFF RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE PROSPECTIVE APRIL 22 DUBLIN EC WORKING GROUP MEETING REPORTED REFTEL. IH RESPONSE RUTH INDICATED HE WOULD BE THE FRG REP AT THE MEETING. HE SAID THE MEETING WAS BASICALLY PICKING UP THE THREAD OF THE DIALOGUE WHICH HAD BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE MAY 1974 WHEN EC REPS MET IN BONN. RUTH SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS NOT REPEAT NOT TO ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP A EUROPEAN POSITION ON MBFR. RATHER, THE EC HOPES TO BE ABLE TO DEVELOP IDEAS FOR NATO'S CONSIDERATION. THE WORKING GROUP INTENDS TO CONCENTRATE ON MBFR ISSUES WHICH ARE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO THE EC. THIS WOULD INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, SUCH TOPICS AS NATIONAL SUBCEILINGS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARMS CONTROL

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ZONE IN EUROPE.

2. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE FRG HAD RECEIVED ANY INDICATIONS OF A CHANGE IN THE FRENCH POSITION ON MBFR, RUTH REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE. HE CONTINUED BY STATING THAT HE ANTICIPATED THE FRENCH POSITION ON MBFR WOULD PROBABLY HAVE HARDENED AS A RESULT OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT NATO THAT THE U.S. WAS CONSIDERING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NUCLEAR OPTION.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD COMMENTS FROM VARIOUS FRG OFFICIALS--INCLUDING FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL-- DURING THE PAST 6-9 MONTHS WHICH INDICATED THAT THE GERMANS WERE HOPEFUL THE FRENCH WOULD BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN CONSULTATIONS ON MBFR. WHILE IT IS NOT CLEAR WHAT THE RESPECTIVE ROLES OF THE FRG AND GOI WERE IN ARRANGING THE DUBLIN MEETING, BONN DOUBTLESS SUPPORTS AN EC VEHICLE FOR MBFR DISCUSSIONS WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE FRENCH.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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